Green Office Update

Issue 31 March 2010

Green Office Goals for 2010

Green Office Reps … let’s make a difference …
- Reduce our carbon footprint and energy consumption by remembering to: Switch OFF Save Energy
- Reduce waste and Promote Recycling of Materials … paper still makes up 13% of Our Waste! Aim for: Zero Paper Going to Landfill!

Green Office Activities for 2010

The Green Office Program 2010 incorporates your feedback from 2009 and includes a variety of activities. The program includes a range of topics from event management and sustainability, flora and fauna on St Lucia campus to sustainable purchasing practices. Green Office Awards will also be presented as part of the annual Environment Day Activities on Friday 4 June 2010.

Annual Green Office Assessments … our focus in March and April

The Green Office Program has now started its annual commitment to evaluating our Offices, Centres and Schools’ Environmental Performance. With the program now expanded to 70 areas and 79 Reps, we are encouraging all areas to conduct their own annual assessments in 2010. We need your help to complete more than 60 annual assessments and produce reports before 30 April 2010.

Training sessions to assist you to conduct objective, accurate and consistent assessments are currently being run. If you have not done so already, please attend one of the following sessions:

- 24 Mar 9.30am & 2.00pm - P&F Meeting Rm No. 1, Bldg 97, St Lucia campus

Don’t put it off … email greenoffice@pf.uq.edu.au and let us know which session you will attend.

Early birds receive coffee vouchers and hats for completed assessments

Congratulations to the first four areas to complete their Green Office assessments in February 2010 … you will receive 6 coffee vouchers and 6 Unigreen hats … Well Done!
- Deidre (IAS–Library – St Lucia);
- Tahnee (Corporate Operations. Records Management Services & Duplicating – St Lucia);
- Alexandra (Geography, Planning & Environmental Management – St Lucia); and
- Toni (Faculty of Health Sciences– Ipswich).

More Incentives available… First 3 areas and 1 random are that complete assessments in:
- March: Receive 4 coffee vouchers and 4 Unigreen Thermal Mugs
- April: Receive 2 coffee vouchers and 2 Unigreen Thermal Mugs
Green Office Program

Green Office Stories

How Muriwai helped the School of Political Science & International Studies recycle their Coffee Grounds

With almost 30 people in the School drinking plunger coffee, our Green Office Representative saw coffee grounds washed down the sink every day.

She forwarded an email to all staff and students of the school about her intention to recycle coffee grounds. In the tea room she posted information sourced from the internet about the many uses of recycling ground coffee, including use in the garden, deterring ants from entering your home, and even ridding your pets of fleas with old coffee grounds! She also left a spatula and a small plastic bucket with lid.

The coffee grounds are available to anyone who wants them at the end of each week. Teabags are also included, less the string and staple.

She recommends you can also contact one of the coffee shops on campus to see if you can collect some grounds on the way home to use in your garden.

Green Office Representatives – this year share your stories – good or bad – with others in the Green Office Program
Please send your story to greenoffice@pf.uq.edu.au

UQ to switch off for Earth Hour – Sat 27 March 2010

The University of Queensland will again join with other Queensland organisations and households to switch off their lights for Earth Hour 2010. UQ will turn off non-essential lights from 8.30pm – 9.30pm at the St Lucia, Gatton, Ipswich and Herston campuses, Dental School, Customs House, Indooroopilly Mine, PACE – PA Hospital, and Moreton Bay Research Station.

REMEMBER - switch off lights and non-essential equipment before you go home on Friday 26 March 2010 and make this a practice every day …

Upcoming Events

UQ activities
• Green Office Annual Assessment Refresher Sessions – 24 March
• Earth Hour – 27 March
• Green Office Information Session for New Reps – 5 May 2010
• Green Office Update Session for existing Reps – 5 May 2010
• World Environment Day activity – 4 June

Other activities
• World Water Day - 22 March

For further information contact Environmental Services, Property and Facilities Division:

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Website: www.pf.uq.edu.au/ems.html